AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

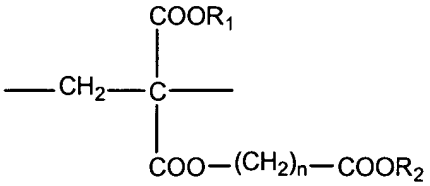
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

a microparticle having an mean particle size of between about 1.0 μm and about 100 μm, said microparticle comprising:

a polymeric support material in which a substance can be dispersed, wherein the support material comprises at least about 50% w/w of at least one homopolymer with a repeat unit according to Formula (I):



wherein

R_1 represents a C_1-C_6 alkyl group or a group $(CH_2)_m$-$COOR_3$ wherein m is an integer from 1 to 5 and R_3 is a C_1-C_6 alkyl group, R_1 and R_3 being the same or different;

R_2 represents a C_1-C_6 alkyl group the same or different from R_1 and R_3;

n is an integer from 1 to 5; and

at least one therapeutic agent that is encapsulated or dispersed in the polymeric support material of the microparticle.

2. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 wherein:

R_1 and R_2 are independently chosen C_1-C_6 alkyl groups; and

n is 1.

3. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 wherein:

the stated homopolymer comprising repeat units according to Formula (I) wherein R_1 and R_2 are ethyl groups; and

n= 1.

4. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 3, wherein the composition ~~being~~ is obtained by a single emulsification process.

5. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to any one of claims 1 to 4 wherein the support material comprises:

from about 90 to about 99.5% by weight of a homopolymer as defined in claim 1; and

from about 0.5 to about 10% by weight of a polymer additive.

6. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 5 wherein the polymer additive comprises at least one of polyethyleneoxide, polyvinylalcohol, polyvinylpyrrolidone, poly(N-2-hydroxypropyl methacrylamide), polyhydroxyethylmethacrylate, hydrophilic poly(aminoacid) such as polylysine or polysaccharide.

7. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 5 wherein the polymer additive is a polyvinylalcohol.

8. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 wherein the dispersed substance is hydrophobic.

9. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 wherein the dispersed substance is a therapeutic agent that requires a solvation vehicle for administration.

10. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 wherein the dispersed substance is hydrophylic.

11. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein the dispersed substance is a therapeutic agent.

12. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein the dispersed substance is a peptide or polypeptide.

13. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 wherein the dispersed substance is a protein.

14. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition according to ~~any one of~~ claim 1 wherein the dispersed substance is a bioactive molecule such as a drug, a therapeutic agent, an anticancer agent, a gene therapy agent, a plasmid DNA, a protein, an enzyme, a peptide, a radionuclide, a protein inhibitor, an analgesic, an anti-inflamatory agent, an antibiotic, an antiviral agent, an antineoplastic agent, a pyrimidine, purine or folic acid analog, an cytotoxic agent, an immunomodulator, a hormone, an antibody or a painkiller.

15. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 14 wherein the pyrimidine analog is fluorouracil (5-FU).

16. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 wherein the dispersed substance is a bioactive molecule such as an anticancer agent or a gene therapy agent.

17. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition according to ~~claims~~ claim 1 wherein the dispersed substance is a therapeutic agent for treating or reducing the severity of a urological disease or disorder.

18. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 wherein the dispersed substance is a therapeutic agent for bladder cancer.

19. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition according to ~~any one of~~ claim 1, wherein the dispersed substance is a taxane.

20. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 19, wherein the taxane is paclitaxel, docetaxel (Taxotere®) or taxol®.

21-36. (Cancelled).

37. (Previously Presented) A method for treating a urological disease or disorder comprising:

administering intravesically a microparticle having a mean particle size of between about 1.0 μm and 100 μm with one or more encapsulated therapeutic agents to the lumen of the bladder;

contacting the particles to the surface of the mucosa,

releasing the encapsulated therapeutic agent in a controlled manner to treat the urological disease or disorder.

38. (Original) A method according to claim 37 wherein the microparticle comprises a poly(methylidene malonate 2.1.2) polymer support material.

39. (Original) A method according to claim 37 wherein the urological disorder is a cancer and the microparticle encapsulated therapeutic agent is an anticancer agent.

40. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 37 wherein the anticancer agent is a taxane.

41. (Currently amended) A method according to ~~any to~~ claim 40 wherein the taxane is paclitaxel, docetaxel (Taxotere®) or taxol®.

42. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 37, wherein microparticles with encapsulated paclitaxel are used for intravesical chemotherapy of bladder cancer.

43-51. (Cancelled).

52. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 1, wherein the microparticle has a mean particle size of between about 1.0 μm and 20 μm.

53. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the microparticle has a mean particle size of between about 1.0 μm and 20 μm.